

Song of Songs | שיר השירים

1 שִׁיר הַשִּׁירִים אֲשֶׁר לְשִׁלְמֹה: 2 יִשָּׁקֵנִי מִנְשִׁיקוֹת
song-of the-songs which to-Solomon from-kisses-of let-him-kiss-me

פִּיהוּ בִּי-טוֹבִים דְּדִידָה מִיּוֹן: 3 לְרִיחַ
mouth-of-him good for love-of-you more-than-wine as-to-fragrance

שְׁמֵנֶיךָ טוֹבִים שֶׁמֶן תּוֹרֵק שְׁמֶךָ עַל-בָּן עַלְמוֹת
oils-of-you oil good she-is-poured-out upon name-of-you virgins thus

אֶהְבּוּךָ: 4 מִשְׁכְּנִי אַחֲרֶיךָ נְרוּצָה הֵבִיאֵנִי הַמֶּלֶךְ
they-love-you draw-me after-you let-us-run he-has-brought-me the-king

חַדְרָיו נִגִּילָה וְנִשְׁמַחָה בָּךְ נִזְכִּירָה דְּדִידָה
chambers-of-him we-will-exult and-we-will-rejoice in-you we-will-extol love-of-you

מִיּוֹן מִיִּשְׂרָאֵל אֶהְבּוּךָ: 5 שְׁחֹרָה אֲנִי וְנֹאֲוָה בָנוֹת
more-than-wine right they-love-you I very-dark daughters-of but-lovely

יְרוּשָׁלַם כְּאֹהֶלִי קֶדֶר כִּירֵעוֹת שְׁלֹמֹה: 6 אַל-תִּרְאוּנִי
Jerusalem like-tents-of Kedar like-curtains-of Solomon gaze-at-me not

שְׁאֵנִי שְׁחֹרְחֶרֶת שֶׁשָּׁזְפַתְנִי הַשֶּׁשֶׁשׁ בְּנֵי אִמִּי
dark that-I she-has-looked-upon-me the-sun sons-of mother-of-me

נִחְרוּ-בִּי שְׁמֵנִי נִטְרָה אֶת-הַכֶּרְמִים
they-were-angry with-me they-made-me one-keeping the-vineyards

כֶּרְמִי שְׁלִי לֹא נִטְרָתִי: 7 הִגִּידָה לִּי שֶׁאֶהְבָּה
vineyard-of-me that-to-me not I-have-kept tell whom-she-loves to-me

נַפְשִׁי אֵיכָה תִרְעָה אֵיכָה תִרְבִּין בַּצֹּהֲרִים שְׁלֹמֹה
soul-of-me where you-pasture where you-make-lie-down at-the-noon that-why

אֶהְיָ כְּעֹטֶה עָלַי עֲדָרִי חֲבֵרֶיךָ: 8 אִם-לֹא
I-shall-be like-one-wrapping-up by flocks-of companions-of-you not if

תִּדְעִי לָךְ הֵיפָה בְּנָשִׁים צֵאִי-לָךְ בְּעֻקְבֵּי
you-know to-you the-beautiful-one among-the-women go-out in-tracks-of

הַצֹּאן וְרַעֲלִי אֶת-גְּדֵיֶיךָ עַל-מִשְׁכְּנוֹת
the-flock and-pasture young-goats-of-you by tents-of

הָרָעִים: 9 לְסִסְתִּי בִּרְכָבִי פָרְעָה דְּמִיתִיךָ
the-ones-shepherding to-mare-of-me among-chariots-of Pharaoh I-compare-you

רַעֲיָתִי: 10 נָאוֹן לְחֵיֶיךָ בִּתְרִים צֹאֲרֶךְ
beloved-of-me they-are-lovely cheeks-of-you with-the-string-ornaments neck-of-you

בְּחֻרוֹזִים: 11 תּוֹרִי זָהָב נַעֲשֶׂה-לָּךְ עִם
with-the-neck-ornaments string-ornaments-of gold with for-you we-will-make

נִקְדוֹת הַכֶּסֶף: 12 עַד-שֶׁהַמֶּלֶךְ בְּמִסְבּוֹ נָרְדִי נָתַן
the-silver points-of that-the-king while on-couch-of-him he-gave nard-of-me

רִיחוֹ: 13 צֹרֹר הַמֶּרְרָן דוּדִי לִי בֵּין שְׂדֵי
fragrance-of-him the-myrrh sachet-of love-of-me between to-me breasts-of-me

יָלִין: 14 אֲשַׁבֵּל הַכֶּפֶרָן דוּדִי לִי בְּכֶרְמִי עֵין גְּדִי:
he-stays the-henna cluster-of to-me love-of-me in-vineyards-of Engedi

1 The Song of Songs, which is Solomon's.

The Bride Confesses Her Love SHE¹

2 Let him kiss me with the kisses of his mouth!

For your love is better than wine;
3 your anointing oils are fragrant;
your name is oil poured out;
therefore virgins love you.

4 Draw me after you; let us run.
The king has brought me into his chambers.

OTHERS
We will exult and rejoice in you;
we will extol your love more than wine;
rightly do they love you.

SHE
5 I am very dark, but lovely,
O daughters of Jerusalem,
like the tents of Kedar,
like the curtains of Solomon.
6 Do not gaze at me because I am dark,
because the sun has looked upon me.
My mother's sons were angry with me;
they made me keeper of the vineyards,
but my own vineyard I have not kept!
7 Tell me, you whom my soul loves,
where you pasture your flock,
where you make it lie down at noon;
for why should I be like one who veils
herself
beside the flocks of your companions?

Solomon and His Bride Delight in Each Other HE

8 If you do not know,
O most beautiful among women,
follow in the tracks of the flock,
and pasture your young goats
beside the shepherds' tents.

9 I compare you, my love,
to a mare among Pharaoh's chariots.
10 Your cheeks are lovely with ornaments,
your neck with strings of jewels.

OTHERS
11 We will make for you² ornaments of gold,
studded with silver.

SHE
12 While the king was on his couch,
my nard gave forth its fragrance.

13 My beloved is to me a sachet of myrrh
that lies between my breasts.

14 My beloved is to me a cluster of henna
blossoms
in the vineyards of Engedi.

¹ The translators have added speaker identifications based on the gender and number of the Hebrew words
² The Hebrew for you is feminine singular

HE

- 15 Behold, you are beautiful, my love;
behold, you are beautiful;
your eyes are doves.

SHE

- 16 Behold, you are beautiful, my beloved,
truly delightful.

Our couch is green;

- 17 the beams of our house are cedar;
our rafters are pine.

2

I am a rose¹ of Sharon,
a lily of the valleys.

HE

- 2 As a lily among brambles,
so is my love among the young women.

SHE

- 3 As an apple tree among the trees of the forest,
so is my beloved among the young men.
With great delight I sat in his shadow,
and his fruit was sweet to my taste.

- 4 He brought me to the banqueting house,²
and his banner over me was love.

- 5 Sustain me with raisins;
refresh me with apples,
for I am sick with love.

- 6 His left hand is under my head,
and his right hand embraces me!

- 7 I adjure you,³ O daughters of Jerusalem,
by the gazelles or the does of the field,
that you not stir up or awaken love
until it pleases.

The Bride Adores Her Beloved

- 8 The voice of my beloved!
Behold, he comes,
leaping over the mountains,
bounding over the hills.

- 9 My beloved is like a gazelle
or a young stag.

Behold, there he stands
behind our wall,
gazing through the windows,
looking through the lattice.

- 10 My beloved speaks and says to me:
“Arise, my love, my beautiful one,
and come away,

- 11 for behold, the winter is past;
the rain is over and gone.

- 12 The flowers appear on the earth,
the time of singing⁴ has come,
and the voice of the turtledove
is heard in our land.

- 13 The fig tree ripens its figs,
and the vines are in blossom;
they give forth fragrance.

¹Probably a bulb, such as a crocus, asphodel, or narcissus
²Hebrew *the house of wine* ³That is, I put you on oath; so
throughout the Song ⁴Or *pruning*

1:17 רְחִיטְנוּ ק

2:9 b sic L; many Hebrew manuscripts and
editions, החלנות, ק

2:11 הסתיו ק

2:13 רְחִיטְנוּ ק

15 יֹונִים: רְעִיתִי הֵנָּה יָפָה יֹונִים: הֵנָּה יָפָה
doves eyes-of-you beautiful behold-you beloved-of-me beautiful behold-you

16 הֵנָּה יָפָה דוֹדִי אַף נָעִים אַף- עֲרֻשְׁנוּ רַעֲנָנָה:
green couch-of-us also pleasant also love-of-me beautiful behold-you

17 קִרְוֹת בֵּיתֵנוּ אֲרָזִים רְחִיטְנוּ בְּרוֹתִים:
pines rafters-of-us cedars houses-of-us beams-of

2 1 אֲנִי חֲבַצְלֶת הַשָּׁרוֹן שׁוֹשַׁנַּת הָעֲמָקִים: 2 כְּשׁוֹשַׁנָּה בֵּין
among as-lily the-valleys lily-of the-Sharon rose-of I

הַחוֹחִים כֵּן רְעִיתִי בֵּין הַבָּנוֹת: 3 כְּתַפּוּחַ בְּעֵצֵי
among-trees-of as-apple the-daughters among beloved-of-me so the-brambles

הַיַּעַר כֵּן דוֹדִי בֵּין הַבָּנִים בְּצֶלוֹ תִמְדַּתִּי
I-delighted with-shadow-of-him the-sons among love-of-me so the-forest

וַיֵּשְׁבֵתִי וּפְרִיו מְתוֹק לְחֵבִי: 4 הֵבִיאֲנִי אֵל-
to he-brought-me to-palate-of-me sweet and-fruit-of-him and-I-sat

בֵּית הַיָּין וְדִגְלוֹ עָלַי אֲהַבָּה: 5 סִמְכוּנִי
sustain-me love over-me and-banner-of-him the-wine house-of

בְּאִשִּׁשׁוֹת רִפְדֹנִי בְּתַפּוּחִים כִּי- חוֹלֵת אֲהַבָּה אֲנִי:
I love being-sick-of for with-the-apples refresh-me with-the-raisins

6 שְׂמֵאלוֹ תַּחַת לְרֹאשִׁי וַיִּמְנֶנּוּ תַּחְבֵּקֵנִי:
she-embraces-me and-right-hand-of-him to-head-of-me under left-of-him

7 הַשְׁבַּעְתִּי אֶתְכֶם בָּנוֹת יְרוּשָׁלַם בְּצִבְאוֹת אוֹ בְּאִילוֹת
in-does-of or by-female-gazelles Jerusalem daughters-of -you I-adjure

הַשָּׂדֶה אִם- תַּעֲרִירָן וְאִם- תַּעֲוִירוּ אֶת- הָאֲהַבָּה עַד
until the-field — you-awaken or-if you-stir-up not the-field

שֶׁתַּחֲפֹץ: 8 קוֹל דוֹדִי הִנֵּה זֶה בָּא מְדַלֵּג עָלַי
over leaping coming this behold love-of-me voice-of that-she-pleases

הַהָרִים מִקַּפֵּץ עַל- הַגְּבְעוֹת: 9 דוֹמָה דוֹדִי לְצִבִּי אוֹ
or to-gazelle love-of-me being-like the-hills over bounding the-mountains

לְעֹפֶר הָאֵילִים הִנֵּה זֶה עוֹמֵד אַחֵר כְּתִלְנוּ מִשְׁגִּיחַ מִן-
from gazing wall-of-us behind standing this behold the-deer to-fawn-of

הַחֲלֹנוֹת^b מֵצִיץ מִן- הַחֲרָכִים: 10 עֲנֶה דוֹדִי וְאָמַר
and-he-says love-of-me he-answers the-lattice from shining the-windows

לִי קוּמִי לָךְ רְעִיתִי יִפְתִּי וּלְכִי- לָךְ:
to-you and-come beautiful-one-of-me beloved-of-me to-you arise to-me

11 כִּי- הִנֵּה הַחֹתָן עָבַר הַגֶּשֶׁם חָלָף הָלָךְ לוֹ:
to-him he-is-gone he-is-over the-rain he-is-past the-winter behold for

12 הַנִּצְנָעִים נִרְאוּ בְּאֶרֶץ עֵת הַזִּמְרִי הִגִּיעַ וְקוֹל
and-voice-of he-has-arrived the-song time-of on-the-earth they-appear the-blossom

הַתּוֹר נִשְׁמַע בְּאֶרְצֵנוּ: 13 תִּנְטָה הַתְּאֵנָה
she-ripens the-fig in-land-of-us he-is-heard the-turtledove

פָּגִיהָ וְהַגִּפְנִים סִמְדָר נָתְנוּ רִיחַ קוּמִי לְכִי
come arise fragrance they-give blossom and-the-vines unripened-fruit-of-him

רַעִיִּי וּלְכִי-לָךְ: 14 יוֹנָתִי בַּחֲגִי
 in-clefts-of dove-of-me to-you and-come beautiful-one-of-me beloved-of-me
 הַסֵּלַע בְּסִתְּרֵי הַמַּדְרָגָה הָרְאִינִי אֶת-מְרֵאֲדִי
 appearance-of-you — show-me the-foothold in-covering-of the-rock
 הַשְּׁמִיעִינִי אֶת-קוֹלְךָ כִּי-קוֹלְךָ עֶרֶב
 sweet voice-of-you for voice-of-you — let-me-hear-me
 וּמְרֵאֲדִי נֶאֱוָה: 15 אֶחָזֹז-לָנוּ שׁוּעָלִים שׁוּעָלִים קְטָנִים
 little foxes foxes for-us grasp lovely and-appearance-of-you
 מַחְבְּלִים כְּרָמִים וּכְרָמֵינוּ סִמְדָּר: 16 דּוֹדִי לִי וָאֲנִי
 and-I to-me love-of-me blossom since-vineyards-of-us vineyards ones-ruining
 לֹא הִרְעָה בְּשׁוֹשְׁנִים: 17 עַד שִׁיפּוֹחַ הַיּוֹם וְנָסוּ
 and-they-flee the-day that-he-breathes until among-the-lilies the-one-grazing to-him
 הַצִּלְלִים סָבַ דִּמָּה-לָךְ דּוֹדִי לַעֲבִי אֹז לְעַפֵּר הָאֵילִים
 the-deer to-fawn-of or to-gazelle love-of-me to-you be-like turn the-shadows
 עַל-הָרֵי בְּתֵר:
 cleft mountains-of on
 1 3 עַל-מִשְׁכְּבִי בַּלַּיְלוֹת בִּקְשָׁתִי אֶת שְׂאֵהָה נִפְשִׁי
 soul-of-me whom-she-loves — I-sought by-the-nights bed-of-me on
 בִּקְשָׁתִי וְלֹא מָצָאתִי: 2 אֶקּוֹמָה נָא וְאֶסּוּבָהּ בְּעִיר
 in-the-city and-I-will-go-about please I-will-rise I-found-him but-not I-sought-him
 בְּשׁוּקִים וּבְרַחֲבוֹת אֶבְקָשָׁה אֶת שְׂאֵהָה נִפְשִׁי
 soul-of-me whom-she-loves — I-will-seek and-in-the-open-squares in-the-streets
 בִּקְשָׁתִי וְלֹא מָצָאתִי: 3 מְצָאוּנִי הַשְּׂמָרִים
 the-ones-watching they-found-me I-found-him but-not I-sought-him
 הַסְּבָבִים בְּעִיר אֶת שְׂאֵהָה נִפְשִׁי רָאִיתָם:
 you-have-seen soul-of-me whom-she-loves — in-the-city the-surrounding
 4 כְּמַעֲט שְׁעָבְרָתִי מֵהֶם עַד שִׁמְצָאתִי אֶת שְׂאֵהָה
 whom-she-loves — that-I-found until from-them that-I-had-passed as-little
 נִפְשִׁי אֶחָזֵתִי וְלֹא אֶרְפְּנוּ עַד-שֶׁהֵבִיאתִיו
 that-I-brought-him until I-will-let-go-him and-not I-held-on-to-him soul-of-me
 אֶל-בֵּית אִמִּי וְאֶל-חֲדָר הוֹרָתִי: 5 הַשְּׁבַעְתִּי
 I-adjure one-conceiving-of-me chamber and-to mother-of-me house-of to
 אֶתְכֶם בָּנוֹת יְרוּשָׁלַם בְּצִבְאוֹת אוֹ בְּאֵילוֹת הַשָּׂדֶה אִם-
 not the-field in-does-of or by-female-gazelles Jerusalem daughters-of —you
 תַּעֲרִינָן וְאִם-תַּעֲרִינָן אֶת-הָאֵהָבָה עַד שֶׁתַּחַפֵּץ: 6 מִי זֹאת
 this who that-she-pleases until the-love — you-awaken or-if stir-you
 עָלָה מִן-הַמִּדְבָּר בְּתִימְרוֹת עֵשֶׂן מְקַטֶּרֶת מוֹר
 myrrh being-made-smoke-of smoke like-columns-of the-wilderness from coming-up
 וּלְבוֹזָה מִכָּל אֲבָקָת רוּכָל: 7 הִנֵּה מִטָּתוֹ
 couch-of-him behold one-trading powder-of from-all-of and-frankincense
 נְשִׁלְשָׁמָה שְׁשִׁים גְּבָרִים סָבִיב לָהּ מִגְּבָרֵי
 from-mighty-ones-of to-her all-around mighty-ones sixty that-to-Solomon

Arise, my love, my beautiful one,
 and come away.

14 O my dove, in the clefts of the rock,
 in the crannies of the cliff,
 let me see your face,
 let me hear your voice,
 for your voice is sweet,
 and your face is lovely.

15 Catch the foxes! for us,
 the little foxes
 that spoil the vineyards,
 for our vineyards are in blossom."

16 My beloved is mine, and I am his;
 he grazes² among the lilies.

17 Until the day breathes
 and the shadows flee,
 turn, my beloved, be like a gazelle
 or a young stag on cleft mountains.³

The Bride's Dream

3 On my bed by night
 I sought him whom my soul loves;
 I sought him, but found him not.
 2 I will rise now and go about the city,
 in the streets and in the squares;
 I will seek him whom my soul loves.
 I sought him, but found him not.
 3 The watchmen found me
 as they went about in the city.
 "Have you seen him whom my soul loves?"
 4 Scarcely had I passed them
 when I found him whom my soul loves.
 I held him, and would not let him go
 until I had brought him into my mother's
 house,
 and into the chamber of her who
 conceived me.
 5 I adjure you, O daughters of Jerusalem,
 by the gazelles or the does of the field,
 that you not stir up or awaken love
 until it pleases.

Solomon Arrives for the Wedding

6 What is that coming up from the
 wilderness
 like columns of smoke,
 perfumed with myrrh and frankincense,
 with all the fragrant powders of a
 merchant?
 7 Behold, it is the litter⁴ of Solomon!
 Around it are sixty mighty men,
 some of the mighty men of Israel,

¹ Or jackals ² Or he pastures his flock ³ Or mountains of
 Bethel ⁴ That is, the couch on which servants carry a king

- 8 all of them wearing swords
and expert in war,
each with his sword at his thigh,
against terror by night.
9 King Solomon made himself a carriage¹
from the wood of Lebanon.
10 He made its posts of silver,
its back of gold, its seat of purple;
its interior was inlaid with love
by the daughters of Jerusalem.
11 Go out, O daughters of Zion,
and look upon King Solomon,
with the crown with which his mother
crowned him
on the day of his wedding,
on the day of the gladness of his heart.

Solomon Admires His Bride's Beauty
HE

- 4 Behold, you are beautiful, my love,
behold, you are beautiful!
Your eyes are doves
behind your veil.
Your hair is like a flock of goats
leaping down the slopes of Gilead.
2 Your teeth are like a flock of shorn ewes
that have come up from the washing,
all of which bear twins,
and not one among them has lost its
young.
3 Your lips are like a scarlet thread,
and your mouth is lovely.
Your cheeks are like halves of a
pomegranate
behind your veil.
4 Your neck is like the tower of David,
built in rows of stone;²
on it hang a thousand shields,
all of them shields of warriors.
5 Your two breasts are like two fawns,
twins of a gazelle,
that graze among the lilies.
6 Until the day breathes
and the shadows flee,
I will go away to the mountain of myrrh
and the hill of frankincense.
7 You are altogether beautiful, my love;
there is no flaw in you.
8 Come with me from Lebanon, my bride;
come with me from Lebanon.
Depart³ from the peak of Amana,
from the peak of Senir and Hermon,
from the dens of lions,

¹ Or sedan chair ² The meaning of the Hebrew word is uncertain ³ Or Look

יִשְׂרָאֵל: 8 כָּל־מִלְחָמָה אִישׁ
man war being-taught-of sword being-grasped-of all-of-them Israel
חָרְבוּ עַל-יָרְכוֹ מִפְּחַד בַּלַּיִלֹת: 9 עָשָׂה
he-made carriage by-the-nights from-terror thigh-of-him at sword-of-him
לֹו הַמֶּלֶךְ שְׁלֹמֹה מֵעֵצֵי הַלְבָּנוֹן: 10 עָשָׂה
he-made posts-of-him the-Lebanon from-wood-of Solomon the-King for-him
כֶּסֶף רִפְדָתוֹ זָהָב מָרְכָבוֹ אֲרָגְמָן תּוֹכוֹ
midst-of-him purple place-for-riding-of-him gold back-of-him silver
רָצוּף אֲהָבָה מִבָּנוֹת יְרוּשָׁלַם: 11 צֵאתָהּ וּרְאִינָהּ
and-look go-out Jerusalem from-daughters-of love being-inlaid
בָּנוֹת צִיּוֹן בַּמֶּלֶךְ שְׁלֹמֹה בַּעֲטָרָה שֶׁעָטְרָהּ-לֹו
—him which-she-crowned with-the-crown Solomon on-the-King Zion daughters-of
אִמּוֹ בְּיוֹם חֲתָנָתוֹ וּבְיוֹם שִׂמְחַת לְבוֹ:
heart-of-him gladness-of and-on-day-of wedding-of-him on-day-of mother-of-him
4 הִנֵּךְ יָפָה רַעִיָתִי הִנֵּךְ יָפָה עֵינֶיךָ יוֹנִים
doves eyes-of-you beautiful behold-you beloved-of-me beautiful behold-you
מִבְּעַד לְצִמְתְּךָ שְׁעָרְךָ כְּעֶדֶר הָעִזִּים שֹׁגְלָשׁוֹ
that-they-move-down the-goats like-flock-of hair-of-you to-veil-of-you from-behind
מִהַר גִּלְעָד: 2 שִׁנָּיֶךָ כְּעֶדֶר הַקְּצוּבוֹת
the-ones-being-shorn like-flock teeth-of-you Gilead from-mountain-of
שֶׁעָלוּ מִן-הָרְחָצָה שְׁכָל־מִתְאִימוֹת
bearing-twins which-all-of-them the-washing from that-they-have-come-up
וְשִׁכְלָה אֵין בָּהֶם: 3 כְּחוֹט הַשָּׁנִי
the-crimson like-thread-of among-them there-is-not and-deprived-of-offspring
שִׁפְתֶיךָ וּמִדְּבָרֶיךָ נְאוּהָ כְּפֶלַח הָרִמּוֹן רִקְתֶּךָ
temple-of-you the-pomegranate like-split-of lovely and-mouth-of-you lips-of-you
מִבְּעַד לְצִמְתְּךָ: 4 כְּמִגְדֵּל דָּוִד צוּאֲרֶךָ בְּנוֹי
one-being-built neck-of-you David like-tower-of to-veil-of-you from-behind
לְתַלְפִּיּוֹת אֶלֶף הַמִּגָּן תָּלוּי עָלָיו כָּל-שִׁלְטֵי
small-shields-of all-of on-him being-hung the-shield thousand-of to-rows-of-stones
הַגְּבוּרִים: 5 שְׁנֵי שִׁדְךָ כְּשְׁנֵי עֲפָרִים תְּאוּמֵי צִבְיָה
female-gazelle twins-of fawns like-two-of breasts-of-you two-of the-mighty-ones
הָרוֹעִים בְּשׁוֹשַׁנִּים: 6 עַד שִׁיפּוֹחַ הַיּוֹם וְנָסוּ
and-they-flee the-day that-he-breathes until among-the-lilies the-ones-grazing
הַצִּלְלִים אֶלְךָ לִי אֶל-הָרַ הַמִּיָּר וְאֶל-גִּבְעַת
hill-of and-to the-myrrh mountain-of to as-to-me I-will-go the-shadows
הַלְבָּנוֹנָה: 7 כָּל־יָפָה רַעִיָתִי וּמוֹם אֵין בָּךְ:
in-you there-is-not and-flaw beloved-of-me beautiful all-of-you the-frankincense
8 אֲתִי מִלְבָּנוֹן כָּלָה אֲתִי מִלְבָּנוֹן כָּלָה אֲתִי תְּשׁוּרִי
depart-you you-come from-Lebanon with-me bride from-Lebanon with-me
מִרְאֵשׁ אֲמָנָה מִרְאֵשׁ שְׁנִיר וְחֶרְמוֹן מִמְּעֻנוֹת אֲרִיּוֹת
lions from-dens-of and-Hermon Senir from-top-of Amana from-top-of

כְּלָה אַחֲתִי 9 לִבְבַּתְנִי מִהַרְרֵי נְמָרִים:
 bride sister-of-me you-have-captivated-heart-of-me leopards from-mountains-of
 עֵנֶק בְּאַחַד מַעֲיְנֶיךָ בְּאַחַד לִבְבַּתְנִי
 jewel with-one-of from-eyes-of-you with-one you-have-captivated-heart-of-me
 כְּלָה אַחֲתִי דֹדֶיךָ יָפּוּ 10 מֵהַ מְצוֹרֶיךָ:
 bride sister-of-me love-of-you they-are-beautiful how from-necklaces-of-you
 שְׁמֵנֶיךָ וְרִיחַ מִיֵּין דֹּדֶיךָ טָבוּ מֵהַ
 oils-of-you and-fragrance-of more-than-wine love-of-you good how
 דְּבַשׁ מִכָּל-בְּשָׂמִים: 11 נָפֶת תִּטְּפֶנָּה שְׁפָתוֹתֶיךָ כְּלָה דְּבַשׁ
 honey bride lips-of-you they-drip nectar spices more-than-any-of
 כְּרִיחַ שְׁלֹמֹתֶיךָ וְרִיחַ לְשׁוֹנְךָ תַּחַת וְחֶלֶב
 like-fragrance-of garments-of-you and-fragrance-of tongue-of-you under and-milk
 מַעֵין 12 לְבָנוֹן גֵּן נָעוּלָה אַחֲתִי כְּלָה גֵּן נָעוּלָה מַעֵין
 fountain being-locked spring bride sister-of-me being-locked garden Lebanon
 חֲתוּם: 13 שְׁלַחֶיךָ פְּרִידִים רְמוֹנִים עִם פְּרִי מִגְדִּים
 choice-things fruit-of with pomegranates orchard-of shoots-of-you being-sealed
 כָּפָרִים עִם-נֶרְדִּים: 14 נֶרְדִּי וְכַרְפֵּס קִנְהָ וְקִנְמֹן עִם כָּל-
 all-of with and-cinnamon calamus and-saffron nard nard with henna
 עֵצֵי לְבוֹנָה מֵר וְאַהֲלוֹת עִם כָּל-רָאשֵׁי בְשָׂמִים: 15 מַעֵין
 fountain-of spices tops-of all-of with and-aloes myrrh frankincense trees-of
 גִּנִּים בְּאֵר מַיִם חַיִּים וְנוֹזְלִים מִן-לְבָנוֹן: 16 עוֹרִי צָפוֹן וּבֹאִי
 and-come north awake Lebanon from and-flowing alive water well-of gardens
 תִּמְנֵן הַפִּיחִי גִנִּי יִזְלוּ בְּשִׁמּוֹ יָבֹא
 let-him-come spices-of-him they-shall-flow garden-of-me blow-upon south
 דוֹדִי לִגְנוֹ וְיֹאכַל פְּרִי מִגְדָּיו:
 choices-of-him fruit-of and-let-him-eat to-garden-of-him love-of-me
 5 בָּאתִי לִגְנִי אַחֲתִי כְּלָה אֲרִיתִי מוֹרִי עִם-
 with myrrh-of-me I-gathered bride sister-of-me to-garden-of-me I-came
 בְּשָׁמִי אֲכַלְתִּי יַעֲרִי עִם-דְּבָשִׁי שְׁתִּיתִי יַיִן
 wine-of-me I-drank honey-of-me with honeycomb-of-me I-ate spice-of-me
 עִם-חֲלָבִי אָכְלוּ רֵעִים שְׁתּוֹ וְשִׁכְרוּ דוֹדִים: 2 אֲנִי יֹשְׁנָה
 asleep I love and-be-drunk drink friends eat milk-of-me with
 וּלְבִי עָר קוֹל דוֹדִי דוֹפֵק פֶּתַח־לִי
 to-me open knocking love-of-me sound-of being-awake but-heart-of-me
 אַחֲתִי רַעִיתִי יוֹנָתִי תִמְתִּי שְׂרָאשִׁי
 that-head-of-me perfect-one-of-me dove-of-me beloved-of-me sister-of-me
 נִמְלֵא-טֶל קוֹצוֹתֵי רִסְיִי לַיְלָה: 3 פָּשַׁטְתִּי אֶת-כִּתְנִיתִי
 garment-of-me — I-had-put-off night drops-of locks-of-me dew being-full
 אֵיכָכָה אֲלַבְּשָׁנָה רַחֲצִיתִי אֶת-רַגְלִי אֵיכָכָה אֶטְנַפֵּם:
 I-soil-them how feet-of-me — I-had-bathed I-put-on-her how

from the mountains of leopards.

- 9 You have captivated my heart, my sister, my bride;
you have captivated my heart with one glance of your eyes,
with one jewel of your necklace.
- 10 How beautiful is your love, my sister, my bride!
How much better is your love than wine,
and the fragrance of your oils than any spice!
- 11 Your lips drip nectar, my bride;
honey and milk are under your tongue;
the fragrance of your garments is like the fragrance of Lebanon.
- 12 A garden locked is my sister, my bride,
a spring locked, a fountain sealed.
- 13 Your shoots are an orchard of pomegranates
with all choicest fruits,
henna with nard,
- 14 nard and saffron, calamus and cinnamon,
with all trees of frankincense,
myrrh and aloes,
with all choice spices—
- 15 a garden fountain, a well of living water,
and flowing streams from Lebanon.
- 16 Awake, O north wind,
and come, O south wind!
Blow upon my garden,
let its spices flow.

Together in the Garden of Love

SHE
Let my beloved come to his garden,
and eat its choicest fruits.

- HE
5 I came to my garden, my sister, my bride,
I gathered my myrrh with my spice,
I ate my honeycomb with my honey,
I drank my wine with my milk.

OTHERS
Eat, friends, drink,
and be drunk with love!

The Bride Searches for Her Beloved

- SHE
2 I slept, but my heart was awake.
A sound! My beloved is knocking.
“Open to me, my sister, my love,
my dove, my perfect one,
for my head is wet with dew,
my locks with the drops of the night.”
- 3 I had put off my garment;
how could I put it on?
I had bathed my feet;
how could I soil them?

בִּאֲחָתָה ק' 4:9

5:2 c sic L; many Hebrew manuscripts and editions, קָנוּ

- 4 My beloved put his hand to the latch,
and my heart was thrilled within me.
- 5 I arose to open to my beloved,
and my hands dripped with myrrh,
my fingers with liquid myrrh,
on the handles of the bolt.
- 6 I opened to my beloved,
but my beloved had turned and gone.
My soul failed me when he spoke.
I sought him, but found him not;
I called him, but he gave no answer.
- 7 The watchmen found me
as they went about in the city;
they beat me, they bruised me,
they took away my veil,
those watchmen of the walls.
- 8 I adjure you, O daughters of Jerusalem,
if you find my beloved,
that you tell him
I am sick with love.

OTHERS

- 9 What is your beloved more than another
beloved,
O most beautiful among women?
What is your beloved more than another
beloved,
that you thus adjure us?

The Bride Praises Her Beloved

SHE

- 10 My beloved is radiant and ruddy,
distinguished among ten thousand.
- 11 His head is the finest gold;
his locks are wavy,
black as a raven.
- 12 His eyes are like doves
beside streams of water,
bathed in milk,
sitting beside a full pool.¹
- 13 His cheeks are like beds of spices,
mounds of sweet-smelling herbs.
His lips are lilies,
dripping liquid myrrh.
- 14 His arms are rods of gold,
set with jewels.
His body is polished ivory,²
bedecked with sapphires.³
- 15 His legs are alabaster columns,
set on bases of gold.
His appearance is like Lebanon,
choice as the cedars.
- 16 His mouth⁴ is most sweet,
and he is altogether desirable.
This is my beloved and this is my friend,
O daughters of Jerusalem.

¹The meaning of the Hebrew is uncertain ²The meaning of the Hebrew word is uncertain ³Hebrew *lapis lazuli*

⁴Hebrew *palate*

5:4 a Hebrew fragment from Cairo Geniza, many Hebrew manuscripts and editions, עלי
5:11 b sic L; many Hebrew manuscripts and editions, קר; cf. verse 2, BHS note c
5:13 a read, with a few Hebrew manuscripts, most versions, גת —; cf. 6:2

4 דודי שלח ידו מן החור ומעי
and-insides-of-me the-hole from hand-of-him he-stretched-out love-of-me

המו עליו: 5 קמתי אני לפתח לדודי
to-love-of-me to-open I I-arose over-him they-were-turbulent

וידי נטפּוּ מוֹר וְאֶצְבָּעֵתִי מוֹר עָבַר עַל
on going-over myrrh and-fingers-of-me myrrh they-dripped and-hands-of-me

כַּפּוֹת הַמִּנְעוּלִ: 6 פָּתַחְתִּי אֲנִי לְדוּדִי וְדוּדִי חִמַּק
he-had-turned but-love-of-me to-love-of-me I I-opened the-bolt hands-of

עָבַר נַפְשִׁי יָצְאָה בְּדַבְּרוֹ בְּקִשְׁתִּיהוּ וְלֹא
but-not I-sought-him when-to-speak-him she-went-out soul-of-me he-had-gone-over

מִצְאָתִיהוּ מִצְאָתִי וְלֹא קָרָאתִי עֲנֵנִי: 7 מָצְאָנִי
they-found-me he-answered-me but-not I-called-him I-found-him

הַשֹּׁמְרִים הַסֹּבְבִים בְּעִיר הַכּוֹנִי פָּצְעוּנִי
they-bruised-me they-struck-me in-the-city the-ones-going-about the-ones-watching

נָשְׂאוּ אֶת-רִדְיִי מֵעָלַי שֹׁמְרֵי הַחֲמוֹת:
the-walls ones-watching-of from-on-me veil-of-me — they-took

8 הִשְׁבַּעְתִּי אֶתְכֶם בָּנוֹת יְרוּשָׁלַם אִם-תִּמְצְאוּ אֶת-דוּדִי
— you-find if Jerusalem daughters-of —you I-adjure

מָה-תִּגִּידוּ לוֹ שְׁחוֹלֶת אֶהְבֶּה אֲנִי: 9 מָה-
what I love that-being-sick-of —him you-tell what love-of-me

דוֹדְךָ מְדוּד הִיפָּה בְּנָשִׁים מָה-דוֹדְךָ
love-of-you what among-the-women O-beautiful-one more-than-love love-of-you

מְדוּד שְׂכָכָה הִשְׁבַּעְתָּנוּ: 10 דוּדִי צָה וְאָדוֹם דָּגוּל
distinguished and-red radiant love-of-me you-adjure-us that-thus more-than-love

מִרְבֵּבָה: 11 רֹאשׁוֹ בָּתָם פָּז קוֹצוֹתָיו^b תִּלְתְּלִים
wavy locks-of-him refined-gold gold-of head-of-him from-ten-thousand

שְׁחֹרוֹת כְּעוֹרֵב: 12 עֵינָיו כִּיּוֹנִים עַל-אֶפְיקֵי מַיִם רַחְצוֹת
bathing water channels-of by like-doves eyes-of-him as-the-raven black

בְּחֵלֶב יִשְׁבּוֹת עַל-מְלֹאת: 13 לַחֲיוֹ כְּעֵרוֹגֶת^a הַבָּשָׂם
the-spice like-garden-of cheeks-of-him fullness by sitting in-the-milk

מִגְדָּלוֹת מֶרְקָחִים שִׁפְתוֹתָיו שׁוֹשְׁנִים נִטְפּוֹת מוֹר עָבַר:
going-over myrrh dripping lilies lips-of-him fragrances towers-of

14 יָדָיו גְּלִילִי זָהָב מִמְּלֵאִים בִּתְרִישֵׁי מַעֲיוֹ עֲשֵׂת שֵׁן
ivory plate-of belly-of-him with-the-beryl being-filled gold rods-of hands-of-him

מְעֻלָּפֶת סַפִּירִים: 15 שׁוֹקָיו עֲמוּדֵי יָשָׁם מִיִּסְדִּים עַל-
on being-set marble columns-of legs-of-him sapphires being-covered

אֲדִנִּי פָּז מְרֹאֵהוּ כְּלָבָנוֹן בָּחוּר כְּאַרְזִים:
as-the-cedars being-chosen like-the-Lebanon appearance-of-him refined-gold bases-of

16 חֶכּוֹ מִמֶּתְקִים וְכֹלּוֹ מִחֲמָדִים זֶה דוּדִי
love-of-me this desirable-things and-all-of-him sweetness roof-of-mouth-of-him

וְזֶה רֵעִי בָנוֹת יְרוּשָׁלַם:
Jerusalem daughters-of friend-of-me and-this

6 **1** אָנָה הֵיפָה דוֹדְךָ הֵלֶךְ **2** בְּנָשִׁים
 among-the-women O-beautiful-one love-of-you he-has-gone where-DIR
 אָנָה פָּנָה דוֹדְךָ וּנְבַקְשֶׁנּוּ עִמָּךְ **2** דוֹדִי
 love-of-me with-you that-we-may-seek-him love-of-you he-has-turned where-DIR
 יָרַד לְגִנּוֹ לְעֲרוֹגוֹת הַבָּשָׂם לְרֻעוֹת **3** אֲנִי לְדוֹדִי וְדוֹדִי
 to-graze the-spice to-garden-beds-of to-garden-of-him he-has-gone-down
 and-love-of-me to-love-of-me I lilies and-to-gather in-the-gardens
 לֵי הָרֵעָה בְּשׁוֹשַׁנִּים: **4** יִפָּה אַתָּה רַעִיטִי כְּתִרְצָה
 as-Tirzah beloved-of-me you beautiful among-the-lily the-one-grazing to-me
 נָאוֹה כִּירוּשָׁלַם אֵימָה בְּנִדְגָלוֹת: **5** הִסְבֵּי עֵינֶיךָ
 eyes-of-you turn-away as-the-ones-being-arranged awesome as-Jerusalem lovely
 מִגִּדִּי שֶׁהֵם הִרְהִיבֵנִי שַׁעְרֶךָ כְּעֶדֶר הָעִזִּים
 the-goats like-flock-of hair-of-you they-overwhelm-me that-they from-before-me
 שָׁגְלָשׁוּ מִן־הַגִּלְעָד: **6** שְׁנִידֶךָ כְּעֶדֶר הָרִחְלִים
 the-ewes like-flock-of teeth-of-you the-Gilead from that-they-leap
 שָׁעֲלוּ מִן־הָרִחְצָה שְׁכָלָם מִתְאִימוֹת
 bearing-twins that-all-of-them the-washing from that-they-have-come-up
 וְשִׁכְלָה אֵין בָּהֶם: **7** כִּפְלַח הָרִמּוֹן
 the-pomegranate like-split-of among-them there-is-not and-deprived-of-offspring
 רִקְתָּךְ מִבְּעַד לְצִמְתָּךְ: **8** שְׁשִׁים הֵמָּה מַלְכוֹת
 queens they sixty to-veil-of-you from-behind temple-of-you
 וּשְׁמֹנִים פִּילְגֻשִׁים וְעַלְמוֹת אֵין מִסְפָּר: **9** אַחַת הִיא
 she one number there-is-not and-virgins concubines and-eighty
 יוֹנָתִי תִמְתִּי אַחַת הִיא לְאִמָּהּ בְּרָה הִיא
 she pure to-mother-of-her she one perfect-one-of-me dove-of-me
 לְיֹלְדָתָהּ רָאוּהָ בָנוֹת וַיִּאֲשְׁרוּהָ מַלְכוֹת
 queens and-they-called-blessed-her daughters they-saw-her to-one-bearing-of-her
 וּפִילְגֻשִׁים וַיְהַלְלוּהָ: **10** מִי זֹאת הַנִּשְׁקָפָה כְּמוֹ־
 like the-one-looking-down this who and-they-praised-her and-concubines
 שָׁחַר יִפָּה כְּלָבְנָה בְּרָה פַחְמָה אֵימָה בְּנִדְגָלוֹת:
 as-the-ones-being-arranged awesome as-the-sun pure as-the-moon beautiful dawn
 אֶל־גִּנַּת אֲגוֹז יֵרְדְתִי לְרֹאוֹת בְּאֵבִי הַנַּחַל **11**
 the-valley at-blossoms-of to-look I-went-down nut-tree orchard-of to
 לְרֹאוֹת הַפֶּרְחָה הַגִּפְּזִין הִנְצוּ הָרִמּוֹנִים: **12** לֹא
 not the-pomegranates they-blossomed the-vine ?-she-has-budded to-see
 יָדַעְתִּי נַפְשִׁי שְׁמִתָּנִי מִרְכָּבוֹת עַמִּי־נָדִיב:
 noble-one people-of-me chariots-of she-set-me soul-of-me I-knew
7 **1** שׁוּבִי שׁוּבִי הַשּׁוֹלֵמִית שׁוּבִי שׁוּבִי וְנִחְזֶה בְּךָ מָה־
 why on-you that-we-may-look return return O-Shulammitte return return

OTHERS

6 Where has your beloved gone,
 O most beautiful among women?
 Where has your beloved turned,
 that we may seek him with you?

Together in the Garden of Love

SHE

2 My beloved has gone down to his garden
 to the beds of spices,
 to graze¹ in the gardens
 and to gather lilies.

3 I am my beloved's and my beloved is mine;
 he grazes among the lilies.

Solomon and His Bride Delight
in Each Other

HE

4 You are beautiful as Tirzah, my love,
 lovely as Jerusalem,
 awesome as an army with banners.

5 Turn away your eyes from me,
 for they overwhelm me—
 Your hair is like a flock of goats
 leaping down the slopes of Gilead.

6 Your teeth are like a flock of ewes
 that have come up from the washing;
 all of them bear twins;
 not one among them has lost its young.

7 Your cheeks are like halves of a
 pomegranate
 behind your veil.

8 There are sixty queens and eighty
 concubines,
 and virgins without number.

9 My dove, my perfect one, is the only one,
 the only one of her mother,
 pure to her who bore her.

The young women saw her and called her
 blessed;
 the queens and concubines also, and they
 praised her.

10 "Who is this who looks down like the dawn,
 beautiful as the moon, bright as the sun,
 awesome as an army with banners?"

SHE

11 I went down to the nut orchard
 to look at the blossoms of the valley,
 to see whether the vines had budded,
 whether the pomegranates were in
 bloom.

12 Before I was aware, my desire set me
 among the chariots of my kinsman, a
 prince.²

OTHERS

13 Return, return, O Shulammitte,
 return, return, that we may look upon
 you.

¹Or to pasture his flock; also verse 3 ²Or chariots of Ammi-Nadib ³Ch 7:1 in Hebrew

- HE
Why should you look upon the
Shulammité,
as upon a dance before two armies?¹
- 7** How beautiful are your feet in sandals,
O noble daughter!
Your rounded thighs are like jewels,
the work of a master hand.
- ² Your navel is a rounded bowl
that never lacks mixed wine.
Your belly is a heap of wheat,
encircled with lilies.
- ³ Your two breasts are like two fawns,
twins of a gazelle.
- ⁴ Your neck is like an ivory tower.
Your eyes are pools in Heshbon,
by the gate of Bath-rabbim.
Your nose is like a tower of Lebanon,
which looks toward Damascus.
- ⁵ Your head crowns you like Carmel,
and your flowing locks are like purple;
a king is held captive in the tresses.
- ⁶ How beautiful and pleasant you are,
O loved one, with all your delights!²
- ⁷ Your stature is like a palm tree,
and your breasts are like its clusters.
- ⁸ I say I will climb the palm tree
and lay hold of its fruit.
Oh may your breasts be like clusters of the
vine,
and the scent of your breath like apples,
⁹ and your mouth³ like the best wine.
- SHE
It goes down smoothly for my beloved,
gliding over lips and teeth.⁴
- ¹⁰ I am my beloved's,
and his desire is for me.

The Bride Gives Her Love

- ¹¹ Come, my beloved,
let us go out into the fields
and lodge in the villages;⁵
- ¹² let us go out early to the vineyards
and see whether the vines have budded,
whether the grape blossoms have opened
and the pomegranates are in bloom.
There I will give you my love.
- ¹³ The mandrakes give forth fragrance,
and beside our doors are all choice fruits,
new as well as old,
which I have laid up for you, O my
beloved.

¹Or dance of Mahanaim ²Or among delights

³Hebrew palate ⁴Septuagint, Syriac, Vulgate; Hebrew causing the lips of sleepers to speak ⁵Or among the henna plants

7:9 a read בתמר; cf. Septuagint

7:10 b–b Septuagint (Aquila, Symmachus), Syriac, Vulgate, χεῖλεσίν μου καὶ ὀδοῦσιν = שפתי ושני

7:13 b sic L; many Hebrew manuscripts and editions, אם

- תִּחְזוּ בְשׁוּלָמִית כַּמְחֹלֶת הַמַּחֲנִים: 2 מֵה־ יִפּוּ
they-are-beautiful how the-armies as-dance-of on-the-Shulammitte you-look
- פְּעָמֶיךָ בְּנַעֲלִים בַּת־ נָדִיב חֲמוּקֵי יָרֵכֶיךָ כְּמוֹ
like thighs-of-you curves-of noble daughter-of in-the-sandals feet-of-you
- חֲלָאִים מַעֲשֵׂה יָדֵי אָמֹן: 3 שָׂרָרְךָ אֲגֹן הַסֶּהַר אֶל־
not the-roundness bowl-of navel-of-you craftsman hands-of work-of jewels
- יָחֵסֶר הַמִּזְג בִּטְנְךָ עֲרֻמַּת חֲטִים סוּגָה בְּשׁוֹשְׁנִים:
with-the-lilies encircled wheat heap-of belly-of-you the-mixed-wine he-lacks
- 4 שְׁנֵי שְׁדִיךָ כְּשְׁנֵי עֲפָרִים תְּאֵמִי צְבִיָּה: 5 צִוְּאָרְךָ
neck-of-you female-gazelle twins-of fawns like-two-of breasts-of-you two-of
- כְּמִגְדֵּל הַשֵּׁן עֵינֶיךָ בְּרֻכּוֹת בְּחֶשְׁבּוֹן עַל־ שַׁעַר בַּת־רַבִּים
Bath-rabbim gate-of by in-Heshbon pools eyes-of-you the-ivory like-tower-of
- אִפְּךָ כְּמִגְדֵּל הַלְּבָנוֹן צוֹפֶה פָּנֶי דַּמְשָׁק: 6 רֹאשְׁךָ
head-of-you Damascus face-of one-watching the-Lebanon like-tower-of nose-of-you
- עָלֶיךָ כְּכַרְמֶל וְדֹלֶת רֹאשְׁךָ כְּאַרְגָּמָן מֶלֶךְ
king like-the-purple head-of-you and-flowing-locks-of like-the-Carmel on-you
- אֲסוּר בְּרֻהִים: 7 מֵה־ יָפִית וּמֵה־ נְעֻמָּת
you-are-pleasant and-how you-are-beautiful how in-the-tresses being-confined
- אֶהְבָּה בְּתַעֲנוּגִים: 8 זֹאת קוֹמָתְךָ דְּמָתָה לְתֶמֶר
—palm-tree she-is-like stature-of-you this with-the-delights love
- וְשְׁדִיךָ לְאַשְׁכְּלוֹת: 9 אֶמְרָתִי אֵעֵלָה בְּתֶמֶר
on-palm I-will-go-up I-say —clusters and-breasts-of-you
- אֶחְזָה בְּסִנְסֵנּוֹ וַיְהִי־נָא שְׁדִיךָ כְּאַשְׁכְּלוֹת
like-clusters-of breasts-of-you please and-let-them-be on-fruits-of-him I-will-take-hold
- הַגֶּפֶן וְרִיחַ אִפְּךָ כַּתְּפוּחִים: 10 וְחֻכְךָ
and-roof-of-mouth-of-you like-the-apples nose-of-you and-scent-of the-vine
- כֵּיִן הַטּוֹב הוֹלֵךְ לְדוּדִי לְמִישְׁרִים דּוֹבֵב
gliding-over to-smoothness for-love-of-me going the-good-one like-wine-of
- בְּשִׁפְתֵי יְשָׁנִים: 11 אֲנִי לְדוּדִי וְעָלִי תִשׁוּקָתוֹ: 12 לָכֵה
come desire-of-him and-on-me to-love-of-me I asleep-ones lips-of
- דוּדִי נֵצַח הַשָּׂדֶה נְלִינָה בְּכַפָּרִים: 13 נִשְׁלִימָה
let-us-do-early in-the-open-villages let-us-lodge the-field let-us-go-out love-of-me
- לְכַרְמִים נִרְאָה אִם פָּרְחָה הַגֶּפֶן פָּתַח
he-has-opened the-vine she-has-budded if let-us-see to-the-vineyards
- הַסְּמֹדֵר הֵנְצוּ הָרְמוּנִים שָׁם אֶתֵּן אֶת־ דְּדִי
loves-of-me — I-will-give there the-pomegranates they-have-bloomed the-blossom
- לָךְ: 14 הַדּוּדָאִים נָתַנוּ־ רִיחַ וְעַל־ פֶּתַח־נֵינוּ כָּל־ מִגְדִּים
choice-things all-of doors-of-us and-by fragrance they-give the-mandrakes to-you
- תְּדַשִּׁים גַּם־ יְשָׁנִים דוּדִי צָפַנְתִּי לָךְ:
for-you I-have-laid-up love-of-me old-ones also new-ones

1 8 מִי יִתֶּנֶּךָ כָּאֵחַ לִי יוֹנֵק שְׂדֵי אִמִּי
 mother-of-me breasts-of one-suckling to-me like-brother he-will-give-you who
 אֲמַצְאֶךָ בַּחוּץ אֲשַׁקֶּךָ גַּם לֹא יְבוֹזוּ לִי: 2 אֲנִהְיֶה
 I-lead-you —me they-despise not also I-kiss-you in-the-outside I-found-you
 אֲבִיאֶךָ אֶל-בֵּית אִמִּי תִלְמַדְנִי אֲשַׁקֶּךָ
 I-give-to-drink-you she-taught-me mother-of-me house-of to I-bring-you
 מִיִּין הָרֶקַח מַעֲסִים רִמְנִי: 3 שְׂמָאלוֹ תַּחַת
 under left-of-him pomegranate-of-me from-juice-of the-spice from-wine
 רֹאשִׁי וְיָמִינוֹ תַּחְבֵּקֵנִי: 4 הִשְׁבַּעְתִּי אֶתְכֶם
 —you I-adjure she-embraces-me and-right-hand-of-him head-of-me
 בָּנוֹת יְרוּשָׁלַם מַה-תַּעֲרִירוּ וְמַה-תַּעֲרִירוּ אֶת-הָאֱהָבָה
 the-love — you-awaken or-what you-stir-up what Jerusalem daughters-of
 עַד שֶׁתַּחֲפֹץ: 5 מִי זֹאת עָלָה מִן-הַמִּדְבָּר מִתְרַפֶּקֶת
 leaning the-wilderness from coming-up this who that-she-pleases until
 עַל-דֹּדָהּ תַּחַת הַתְּפֹחַ עֲוֹרֶרְתִּיךָ שָׁמָּה
 there-DIR I-awakened-you the-apple-tree under love-of-her on
 חֲבַלְתָּךְ אִמֶּךָ שָׁמָּה חֲבָלָה יִלְדָתְךָ: f
 she-bore-you she-was-in-labor there-DIR mother-of-you you-she-was-in-labor-you
 6 שִׁימְנֵי כַחוֹתֶם עַל-לִבֶּךָ כַחוֹתֶם עַל-זְרוּעֶךָ כִּי-עֲזָה
 strong for arm-of-you upon as-the-seal heart-of-you upon as-the-seal set-me
 כַּמּוֹת אֱהָבָה קָשָׁה כְּשֹׁאֹל קִנְאָה רִשְׁפִּיהָ רִשְׁפֵּי אֵשׁ
 fire flashes-of flashes-of-her jealousy as-Sheol fierce love as-the-death
 שְׁלֵה־בַתְּחִיָּה: b 7 מִים רַבִּים לֹא יוּכְלוּ לְכַבּוֹת אֶת-הָאֱהָבָה
 the-love — to-quench they-are-able not many waters flame-of-Yah
 וְנַהֲרוֹת לֹא יִשְׁטְפוּהָ אִם-יִתֵּן אִישׁ אֶת-כָּל-הוֹן
 wealth-of all-of — man he-gave if they-engulf-her not and-rivers
 בֵּיתוֹ בְּאֱהָבָה בּוֹז יְבוֹזוּ לוֹ: 8 אַחֹת לָנוּ קִטְנָה
 little to-us sister —him they-despise to-despise over-the-love house-of-him
 וְשָׁדִים אֵין לָהּ מַה-נַּעֲשֶׂה לְאַחֲתָנוּ בַּיּוֹם
 on-the-day for-sister-of-us we-shall-do what to-her there-is-not and-breasts
 שִׁידְבָּר-בָּהּ: 9 אִם-חוֹמָה הִיא נִבְנֶה עָלֶיהָ טִירַת
 battlement-of on-her we-will-build she wall if over-her that-he-speaks
 כֶּסֶף וְאִם-דֶּלֶת הִיא נַצּוֹר עָלֶיהָ לֹחַ אֲרִז: 10 אֲנִי חוֹמָה
 wall I cedar board-of on-her we-will-bind she door but-if silver
 וְשָׁדִי כַמִּגְדָּלוֹת אֲזִי הִיְתִי בְעֵינָיו כַּמּוֹצֵאת
 as-one-finding in-eyes-of-him I-was then like-the-towers and-breasts-of-me
 שָׁלוֹם: 11 כִּרְם הִיָּה לְשֹׁלְמָה בְּבַעַל הָמוֹן נָתַן אֶת-הַכֶּרֶם
 the-vineyard — he-gave in-Baal-hamon to-Solomon he-was vineyard peace
 לְנֹטְרִים אִישׁ יָבֵא בְּפִרְיוֹ אֶלְף כֶּסֶף:
 silver thousand-of over-fruit-of-him he-shall-bring man to-the-ones-keeping
 12 כִּרְמִי שָׁלִי לִפְנֵי הָאֶלְף לָךְ שְׁלֹמָה
 Solomon to-you the-thousand before-me that-to-me vineyard-of-me

Longing for Her Beloved

- 8 Oh that you were like a brother to me
 who nursed at my mother's breasts!
 If I found you outside, I would kiss you,
 and none would despise me.
 2 I would lead you and bring you
 into the house of my mother—
 she who used to teach me.
 I would give you spiced wine to drink,
 the juice of my pomegranate.
 3 His left hand is under my head,
 and his right hand embraces me!
 4 I adjure you, O daughters of Jerusalem,
 that you not stir up or awaken love
 until it pleases.
 5 Who is that coming up from the
 wilderness,
 leaning on her beloved?
 Under the apple tree I awakened you.
 There your mother was in labor with you;
 there she who bore you was in labor.
 6 Set me as a seal upon your heart,
 as a seal upon your arm,
 for love is strong as death,
 jealousy¹ is fierce as the grave.²
 Its flashes are flashes of fire,
 the very flame of the LORD.
 7 Many waters cannot quench love,
 neither can floods drown it.
 If a man offered for love
 all the wealth of his house,
 he³ would be utterly despised.

Final Advice

OTHERS

- 8 We have a little sister,
 and she has no breasts.
 What shall we do for our sister
 on the day when she is spoken for?
 9 If she is a wall,
 we will build on her a battlement of
 silver,
 but if she is a door,
 we will enclose her with boards of cedar.

SHE

- 10 I was a wall,
 and my breasts were like towers;
 then I was in his eyes
 as one who finds⁴ peace.
 11 Solomon had a vineyard at Baal-hamon;
 he let out the vineyard to keepers;
 each one was to bring for its fruit a
 thousand pieces of silver.
 12 My vineyard, my very own, is before me;
 you, O Solomon, may have the thousand,

¹Or ardor ²Hebrew as Sheol ³Or it ⁴Or brings out

8:5 f Septuagint (Syriac, Vulgate), ἡ τεκοῦσα σου; read יִלְדָתְךָ

8:6 b read שְׁלֵה־בַתְּחִיָּה שְׁלֵה־בַתְּחִיָּה

and the keepers of the fruit two hundred.

He

- ¹³ O you who dwell in the gardens,
with companions listening for your
voice;
let me hear it.

SHE

- ¹⁴ Make haste, my beloved,
and be like a gazelle
or a young stag
on the mountains of spices.

וּמֵאֲתֵיּם לְנֹטְרִים אֶת־פְּרִיּוֹ: 13 הַיּוֹשֶׁבֶת בְּגַנִּים
in-the-gardens O-one-dwelling fruit-of-him — to-ones-keeping and-two-hundred
חֲבֵרִים מְקַשְׁבִּים לְקוֹלָךְ הַשְׁמִיעֵנִי: 14 בָּרַח |
companion listening-attentively for-voice-of-you let-hear-me flee
דוֹדִי וְדָמָה־לָּךְ לְעֶזְרֵי הָאֵילִים עַל 14
love-of-me and-be-like as-to-you or —gazelle on the-deer —fawn-of
הָרִי בְשָׂמִים:
mountains-of spices